

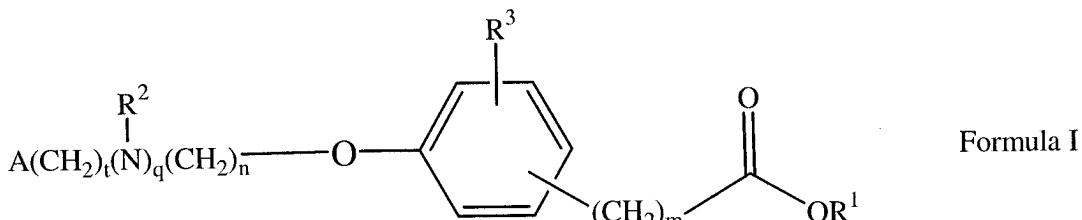
### **Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend claims 19, 20 and 27, as shown in the listing of claims that follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-5 (canceled).

6. (Original) A method for treating a mammalian subject with a condition selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance syndrome, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, fatty liver disease, cachexia, obesity, atherosclerosis and arteriosclerosis comprising administering to the subject an amount of a biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

$n$  is 1 or 2;

$m$  is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

$R^2$  is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

$R^3$  is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy; or  
cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl; or  
a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I by a ring carbon; and

$R^1$  is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when  $R^1$  is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein n is 1; q is 0; t is 0;  $R^3$  is hydrogen; and

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein wherein A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl.

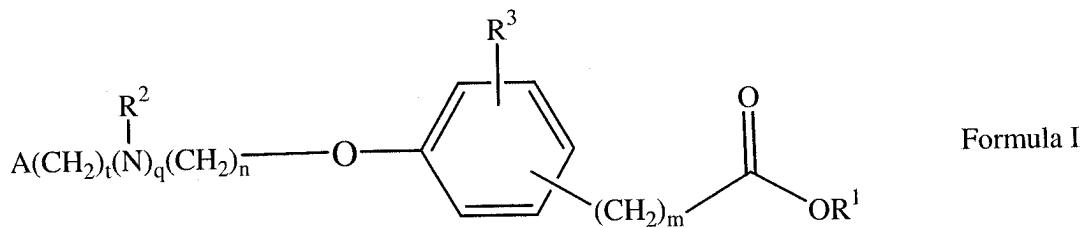
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the biologically active agent is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;

Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;  
6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;  
Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;  
5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;  
Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;  
3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and  
Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the subject is a human.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the agent is administered orally in an amount from one milligram to four hundred milligrams per day.
12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the condition is insulin resistance syndrome or Type II Diabetes.
13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the treatment reduces a symptom of diabetes or the chances of developing a symptom of diabetes, wherein the symptom is selected from the group consisting of: atherosclerosis, obesity, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, fatty liver disease, nephropathy, neuropathy, retinopathy, foot ulceration and cataracts, associated with diabetes.
14. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of a condition selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance syndrome, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, fatty liver disease, cachexia, obesity, atherosclerosis, arteriosclerosis and adapted for oral administration, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and from one milligram to four hundred milligrams of a biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R<sup>2</sup> is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy; or cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl; or

a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I by a ring carbon; and

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

15. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein n is 1; q is 0; t is 0; R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; and

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.

16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein wherein A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl.

17. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, wherein the biologically active agent is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;

Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;

6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;

Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;

5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;

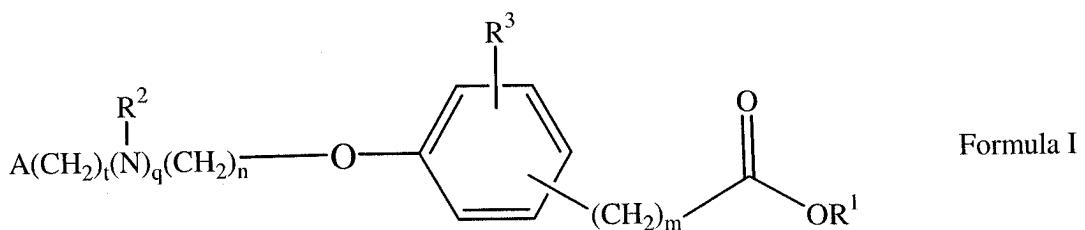
Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;

3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and

Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

18. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14 in oral dosage form.

19. (Currently amended) A biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R<sup>2</sup> is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

| A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy; or

~~cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono substituted by methyl or ethyl; or~~

a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I by a ring carbon; and

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, wherein the agent is substantially pure.

20. (Currently amended) The biologically active agent of claim 19, wherein n is 1; q is 0; t is 0; R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; and

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by ~~1 or 2~~ groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.

21. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 20, wherein A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl.

22. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 21, selected from the group consisting of:

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;

Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;

6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;

Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;

5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;

Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;

3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and  
Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

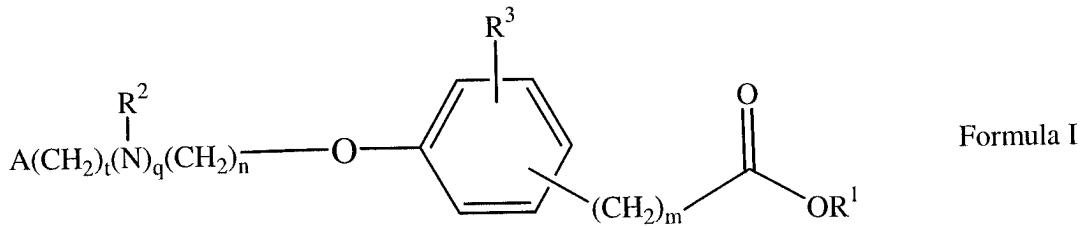
Claim 23 (canceled).

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the biologically active agent is 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

25. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the biologically active agent is 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

26. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 22, being 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

27. (Currently amended) A biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R<sup>2</sup> is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy; or  
~~cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono substituted by methyl or ethyl; or~~  
a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I by a ring carbon; and

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, wherein the agent is present in a mammal other than a mouse.

28. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 27, wherein n is 1; q is 0; t is 0; R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; and  
A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.

29. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 28, wherein A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl.

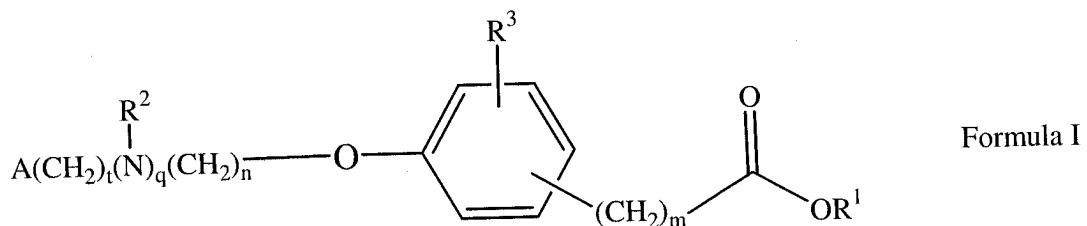
30. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 29, selected from the group consisting of:  
3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;  
3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;  
Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;  
6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;  
Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;  
5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;  
Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;  
3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and  
Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

31. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 30, being 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

32. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 31, wherein the mammal is a human.

33. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 27, wherein the mammal is a human.

34. (Previously presented) A method for treating a mammalian subject with a condition selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance syndrome, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, fatty liver disease, cachexia, obesity, atherosclerosis and arteriosclerosis, wherein the active agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

$R^2$  is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

$R^3$  is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy; or  
cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl; or  
a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I by a ring carbon; and

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein n is 1; q is 0; t is 0; R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; and A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of:  
3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;  
3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;  
Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;  
6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;  
Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;  
5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;  
Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;  
3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and  
Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the active agent is 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the subject is a human.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the condition is insulin resistance syndrome or Type II Diabetes.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the treatment reduces a symptom of diabetes or the chances of developing a symptom of diabetes, wherein the symptom is selected from the group consisting of: atherosclerosis, obesity, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, fatty liver disease, nephropathy, neuropathy, retinopathy, foot ulceration and cataracts, associated with diabetes.